l: Krasheninnikov N-5 (1736-40) 1764 Kamchadal

ſide with their feet hanging down; and it would be looked upon as a diſgrace for any one to ſit in the ſledge, or to make uſe of any perſon to drive them, no body doing this but the women.

A ſet of four good dogs will coſt in *Kamtſchatka* 15 rubles, and with their harneſs complete come to near 20.

From the make of their ſledges may be ſeen how difficult it is to travel upon them; for a man is obliged to keep the exacteſt balance, otherwiſe he is liable, from the height and narrowneſs of them, to be overturned. In a rugged road this would be very dangerous, as the dogs never ſtop 'till they come to ſome houſe, or are entangled by ſomething upon the road; for they have this fault, that in going down ſteep hills they run with all their force, and are ſcarcely to be kept in: for which reaſon, in deſcending any great declivity they unyoke all the dogs except one, and lead them ſoftly down the hill. They likewiſe walk up hills; for it is as much as the dogs can do to drag up the ſledge empty. The narta will carry, beſides the proviſions for the dogs and the driver, about five poods. With this load, upon a tolerable road, they can travel about 30 verſts a day; and without any load, in the ſpring when the ſnow is hardened, and upon fliders made of bone, they can travel 150 verſts. After a deep ſnow there is no travelling with dogs 'till a road be made, which is effected by a man going before upon ſnow-ſhoes, whom they call *brodovſhika*.

The ſnow-ſhoes are made of two thin boards, ſeparated in the middle, and bound together at the ends; the fore part is bent a little upwards. They are bound together with thongs, and a place made to ſlip in the foot, which they likewiſe tie with thongs. The brodovſhika having one of theſe ſhoes upon each foot leaves the dogs and ſledge, and going on, clears the road for ſome way; then returning leads forwards the dogs and ſledge ſo far as the road is made; a method which he muſt continue 'till

1: Krasheninnikov N-5 (1736-40) 1764 Kamchadal

484 491 till he comes to ſome dwelling-houſe. This is very laborious, but it happens ſo often, that no guide ever ſets out without his ſnow-ſhoes.

484 The greateſt danger is when a ſtorm of driven ſnow ſurpriſes them; then they are obliged with all haſte to ſeek the ſhelter of ſome wood, where they ſtay as long as the tempeſt laſts, which ſometimes is a whole week. If a ſtorm at any time ſurpriſes a large company of travellers, they dig a place for themſelves under the ſnow, and cover the entry with wood or bramble. The *Kamtſchadales* ſeldom make theſe temporary huts, but hide themſelves commonly in caves or holes of the earth, wrapping themſelves in their furrs; and when thus covered, they move or turn themſelves with the greateſt caution, leaſt they ſhould throw off the ſnow, for under that they lie as warm as in their common huts: they muſt only have the convenience of a breathing place; but if their cloaths are tight or hard girt about them, the cold is unſufferable.

If the ſtorms ſurpriſe them in an open country where there is no wood, they endeavour to find ſome hollow place, in which they ſhelter themſelves, but muſt be careful to prevent being ſmothered with the ſnow. The eaſt and ſouth-eaſt winds are generally attended with a moiſt ſnow, which wets the travellers; and being followed with the north wind and ſevere colds, ſeveral are then frozen to death.

Another danger attending the traveller is, that in the ſevereſt froſt ſeveral rivers are not quite frozen over; and as the roads for the moſt part lie cloſe upon the rivers, the banks being very ſteep, few years paſs in which many people are not drowned. A diſagreeable circumſtance alſo to thoſe who travel in theſe parts is their ſometimes being obliged to paſs through copſes, where they run the riſk of having their eyes ſcratched out, or their limbs broken; for the dogs always run moſt violently in the

1: Krasheninnikov N-5 (1736-40) 1764 Kamchadal

the worſt roads, and to free themſelves very often overturn their driver.

The beſt travelling is in the month of *March* or *April*, when the ſnow is turned hard or frozen a little at top; however, there is ſtill this inconvenience attending it, that ſometimes travellers are obliged to lodge two or three nights in deſert places; and it is difficult to prevail upon the *Kamtſchadales* to make fire either for warming themſelves or dreſſing victuals, as they and their dogs eat dried fiſh, and find themſelves ſo warm wrapt in their furrs that they want none; nay, it is ſurpriſing to ſee all the people of this climate bearing the cold ſo well, that after having ſlept a whole night very ſound they awake next morning as refreſhed and alert as if they had lain in the warmeſt bed. This ſeems to be ſo natural to all here, that I have ſeen ſome of them lie down with their backs uncovered againſt a fire, and notwithſtanding the fire has been burnt out long before morning, yet they continued to ſleep on very comfortably, and without any inconvenience.

CHAP. X.

Of the Kamtſchadales' *Method of making* WAR.

ALTHOUGH before they were conquered by the *Ruſſians*, the *Kamtſchadales* did not ſeem to have had any ambition of increaſing their power, or enlarging their territories, yet they had ſuch frequent quarrels among themſelves that ſeldom a year paſſed without one village or other being entirely ruined. The end of their wars was to take priſoners, in order

22: Guillemard T-2 (1882) 1886 Kamchadal

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had visited the greater part of the peninsula. Owing to the difficulties of communication excepting in the winter season, he had abundant time on his hands, which he had devoted with indefatigable ardour to his favourite pursuits. Geology, surveying, palæontology, photography and ornithology,—each and all had occupied his leisure hours, with results which were evidenced by the richness of his collections. None of the other Europeans knew anything of the country outside Petropaulovsky, and to him alone we were indebted for what information we could get about our projected route, as well as for many useful hints on Kamschatkan travel.

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Our intention was, if the plan were feasible, to travel northwards from Avatcha Bay until we struck the head waters of the Great Kamschatka River, where we were to procure canoes if possible, or if not to construct rafts, and by this means float down the stream to the sea. Meanwhile, the yacht was to remain in Petropaulovsky harbour for a month or six weeks, and then proceed to the mouth of the river to await our arrival. We found that Dr. Dybowski, in spite of his extensive travels in the peninsula, had not himself performed this journey, neither was he aware of any other person who had attempted it. Communication often takes place with Nischni Kamschatka—an *ostrog* near the mouth of the river—in the winter, but the sledges do not, as in Lapland, travel on the river; and though occasionally a few of the lonely settlements upon its banks are passed, the track leads for the most part by short cuts overland, and we had no means of judging the distances or the length of time necessary for our journey. From Dr. Dybowski, however, we were able to obtain all the information that was to be got upon the subject; and to learn that, whatever other difficulties we might have to encounter, that of an insufficient supply of food was certainly not one. His accounts of the really marvellous abundance of fish, which at the time seemed almost incredible, we were destined later to find, if anything, understated. Whether the almost exclusive fish diet of the inhabitants of the

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22: Guillemard T-2 (1882) 1886 Kamchadal

133 361 484 000 Losing sight of the range near Melcova no more mountains are seen, and Mashura, a village of fourteen houses and eighty-eight inhabitants, has but little to recommend it in the way of scenery. Excepting at the settlements no boat is ever met with, and voyaging on the Kamschatka is regarded by the natives as an affair of some moment. Our approach was accordingly heralded by numerous discharges of blank cartridge from the guns of our raftmen, and as we stepped ashore shortly after sunset we found the head-man awaiting us, together with a considerable proportion of the inhabitants. Anxious to prevent a "ring" between them and the men we had brought from Melcova, we approached the subject of canoes for our further journey as quickly as we could. But we had been anticipated, and we began to see that henceforward extortion was to be the order of the day in every case in which we were brought in contact with these people. They refused to sell us canoes, and demanded sixty roubles to take us on a distance of as many versts, —a rate which would have left us with empty pockets before we had got half way down the river. For a small birch-bark jar of milk they asked half a rouble, and charged in like proportion for other articles. In these cases, however, our line of action was simple. We took the things at once, placed them inside the tents, and paid what we considered the proper sum. They refused the money, and when we turned in for the night without having come to any definite settlement for the following day, the relations between us had become considerably strained.

142 144 164 177 361 Mashura was, in bygone days, one of the largest Kamschatdale settlements in the centre of the peninsula, but smallpox—the disease so fatal on its first introduction among uncivilised nations—broke out in 1767, and ravaged the country to such a frightful extent that it is said to have killed nearly three-quarters of the natives, and the village has since dwindled down to its present insignificant size. The people were short, but strong-looking men, with scanty beards and straight hair, which was either light or dark, according to the preponderance of Russian or native blood. Most

22: Guillemard T-2 (1882) 1886 Kamchadal

000 that we could no longer continue our journey. Everything is comparative; and to our craft, with its low free-board and heavy load, the three-inch waves became more formidable than the heavy seas in a gale in "the Bay" appear to an ocean steamer. It would have been too absurd to founder in such a tea-cup storm, so we made for the shore, and set to work to cut down trees till we had to some extent restored the circulation in our limbs. An hour or two later the wind dropped, and we were able to proceed. We noticed the signs of some old forest fires near this spot, but they seem, happily, to be very rare. In Scandinavia, in a journey of the length that ours had been, we should have seen fifty or more. Here the great precautions that are taken against their occurrence are no doubt the chief reasons for their infrequency. Our hunters told us that the sables do not return to these spots for many years after, even if the forest has been but slightly injured by the fire.

361 133 484 Late in the afternoon we passed the hamlet of Kristovsky, or Kristi as it was called by our men, and a few versts farther came upon some people encamped upon the banks. It is curious how little the rivers are used as highways either during the winter or summer. The natives can hardly be said to travel at all, excepting in their winter excursions after sable. This was only the second party we had seen away from the settlements, and we were told that no one had passed down the river from Melcova that year. We shouted greeting as we passed, but there was no time to stop, as we wished to reach Kluchi that night. Our Kojerevsky men worked their paddles with a will, and before long we reached the mouth of the Yelofka River, a large stream, eighty yards or more in width, which joins the Kamschatka on its left bank. It flows due south, draining the western slopes of the great Sevelitch volcano, and is used as a road to Tigil, a settlement on the river of that name in the north-west part of the peninsula, which is, or used to be, a trading station of some importance to which the Koriaks 133 and Tchukchis bring in their furs for sale. The river is ascended by canoes for fifty or sixty miles, the watershed is then crossed by

27: Sauer--301-302 T-2 (1789-93) 1802 Kamchadal
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"With regard to rivers, the Kamtshatka is the only one of any consequence. Its source I have already described: it flows nearly north to Neizshni Kamtshatka, where it turns to the east south-east about 25 miles, and empties itself into a large but shallow bay formed by the Kronotskoi and Kamtshatskoi promontories; its discharge is extremely shallow, not exceeding eight feet at high water, and the breakers are very violent with an easterly breeze. This, however, is the only navigable river on the peninsula.

The Bolshoia Reka has only a course of 20 miles. It is formed by the union of the Bystrea with the Natsheke, a little below Bolshoiretsk: the former has its rise from the springs near the source of the Kamtshatka, and takes a sweep from south to west; the latter commences a little south of the village Natsheke, and flows nearly west about 100 versts: neither are navigable, though, during the springflood, the natives sometimes venture down them in their canoes, but with great difficulty, owing to rapids, &c.

The Avatsha has also an interrupted and unnavigable course of 70 versts in a direction east south-east. The inhabitants of the [302] village Koriatsk, 20 miles up this river from its discharge, pass up and down it in their canoes, hauling them over the flats."

27: Sauer--302 T-2 (1789-93) 1802 Kamchadal
116, 133, 224, 484

"The Ilmitsh, commonly called the Paratounca, has its rise from near the Viluitshiskoi Sopka (called in Cook's last voyage the Paratounca); and from a lake near the Tareinskoi harbour, it makes a circuit of 85 versts, and discharges itself into the bay of Avatsha, only three miles in a direct line from its source: it is navigable for boats all the way; but I was fourteen hours in traversing the whole of this river, from the lake, in a canoe. The villagers of Paratounca go on the chase of deer, argali, bears, &c. about the source of this river, by passing down the stream into Tareinski harbour, and hauling their canoes over the plain already mentioned into the lake. An immense number of rivulets from the mountains flow to the east into the ocean, but none of them are either remarkable, or have their banks inhabited."

K 195 131 167 A 175 /127 cont./ The next and last of the Kurile Islands, Schumschu /Shumshu/, on the other hand, received its population, not from the south anymore, but from the north, from the adjacent Kamchatka Peninsula. It was not Ainu, but Italmen or Kamchadal, who originally visited this island only to trap animals, but after the arrival of the Russians in Kamchatka, they began to take up permanent residence out of fear of having to pay tribute to the latter and because of quarrels among themselves (2). The names of the islands mentioned also suggest

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2. Steller, op. cit., pp. 7, 30; Krasheninnikov", op. cit., Vol. I, p. 143; Vol. II, pp. 2, 4.

this spread of the Ainu and Italmen over the Kuriles, for in the Ainu language "Poro mosiri" or "Poro-moschiri" means "large island" (3), and "samatsch" is said to mean "island" in the

3. Not simply "island," as Steller (op. cit., p. 7) interprets the name "Buru muschi" and the "Paramusir" made from it, so he thinks, by the Russians.

K A 175 563 484 Italmen language (4). Moreover, the Italmen on the island of

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4. Steller, op. cit., p. 6. This is the reason why the inhabitants of the southern tip of Kamchatka call the inhabitants of the islands "Sumtschuai," i.e., islanders (Steller, op. cit., p. 7.

Schumschu and on the southern tip did not maintain relations with the Ainu from the more distant islands without mixing with them: for many years they have entered into marriages

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/127 cont./ with them, and since they moved back and forth between the mainland and the nearest island, and, on the other hand, the Ainu, too -- who, as Steller says, roam about on the sea as the Tartars do on land -- repeatedly came to Kamchatka, a mixed people made up of Italmen and Ainu was formed on the entire southern part of the peninsula and showed many differences in outward appearance and in language from the Kamchadal living farther north (5). It is therefore not surprising that in the be-

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5. Steller, op. cit., pp. 7, 23; Krasheninnikov", op. cit., Vol. I, p. 143; Vol. II, p. 4.

ginning the Russians took the inhabitants of southern Kamchatka for the same people as those inhabiting the islands, the Ainu, and designated them, like the latter, with the name "Kuriles" (6).

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6. Hence the contradiction between the earlier assertions by Müller in his article, "Geographie und Verfassung von Kamtschatka aus verschiedenen schriftl. und mündl. Nachrichten gesammlet zu Jakuzk, 1737 /Geography and Organization of Kamchatka from Various Written and Oral Reports Collected in Yakutsk/" (in the appendix to Steller's Beschreibung von Kamschatka /Description of Kamchatka/ and those by Steller and Krascheninnikof. Müller (op. cit., p. 18) has the Kuriles living on Kamchatka along the east coast as far as Awatscha and on the west coast as far as the Kompakowa River; he speaks of Bolscherezki Kuriles (p. 21); he regards the inhabitants of Schumschu, who, moreover, he has coming from the north, as Kuriles just like those on Poromuschir (p. 45), etc. To be sure, for the Kurile